

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN, OECD
SUBJECT: FOURTH MEETING OF GROUP OF EXPERTS ON ECONOMIC
ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION ACTIVITIES AND THE ROLE OF
ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES, JULY
4-6, 1978, PARIS.

1. SUMMARY. THE MAIN BUSINESS OF THE MEETING WAS A
DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT ON INFORMA-
TION ACTIVITIES, ITS OUTLINE, STATUS OF WORK, DATA
REQUIREMENTS AND FUTURE SCHEDULE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE JULY 4 MEETING CONSISTED OF A REPORT OF THE
TASK DESIGNEES FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT ON INFORMATION
ACTIVITIES. THE MEETINGS OF JULY 5 AND 6 WERE DEVOTED
TO A REPORT TO THE FULL GROUP. THE TASK DESIGNEES
PRESENTED A SEVEN CHAPTER OUTLINE OF THE PROPOSED
REPORT, CONSISTING OF:

- I. GROWTH DATA OF THE INFORMATION SECTOR;
 - II. METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN ACCUMULA-
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TING CHAPTER I STATISTICS;
III. GNP AND THE INFORMATION SECTOR CONTRIBUTION;
IV. SOCIAL COSTS OF THE GROWING INFORMATION SECTOR;
V. TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR;
VI. CHANGES IN PRODUCTION METHODS AND CAPITAL REQUIRE-
MENTS;
VII. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

WORK ON THE REPORT WILL CONTINUE, WITH COMPLETION OF A FIRST DRAFT EXPECTED BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

3. THE MAJOR PROBLEM REPORTED WAS THE FAILURE OF MANY MEMBER COUNTRIES TO COLLECT AND FORWARD THE NECESSARY ECONOMIC STATISTICS TO THE OECD. THE U.S. IS ONE OF THE COUNTRIES WHICH HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE ECONOMIC STATISTICS. CONSIDERING THAT THE U.S. HELPED TO INITIATE THIS PROJECT AND HAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED IT EVER SINCE, THIS DEFICIENCY SHOULD BE CORRECTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TASK DESIGNEES IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 18 AND 19; THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE GROUP OF EXPERTS IN MARCH 1979.

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